Records of Fort St. George

LETTERS TO FORT ST. GEORGE 1754-55

Volume XXXV

MADRAS
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS

1942

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1754-55

Volume XXXV

MADRAS
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PREFATORY NOTE.

This volume contains the letters received at Fort St. George from September 1754 to September 1755 and is the thirty-fifth in the series of records known as "Letters to Fort St. George."

The original manuscript volume has been mended and is in a fair state of preservation.

CHITTOOR,
11*th July* 1942.

B. S. BALIGA,
Curator, Madras Record Office.

RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE

LETTERS TO FORT ST. GEORGE 1754-55

(VOLUME No. XXXV.)

[*From September 1754 to September 1755.*]

[*Previous letters in the original lost.*]

[*Earlier portion of this letter lost.*]

Left it, had the Priveledge equally with other Merchants to unload her Cargo upon paying a Custom of 1 P. Cent on the Goods unsold, and six ℘ Cent on those sold, conformable to the Condition on which they are annually farm'd by private people, who also require to be supported in their rights, it not having appear'd to us nor our Agents at Malacca, that this Ship was in distress in which case only hospitality only can be talk'd of but as you demand satisfaction in a manner to perswade us of your Good intention to redress the Greviances we have on our side, we have Given orders to Malacca to make restitution to those whom you may appoint to receive it being with perfect Esteem

CASTLE OF BATAVIA
THE 30TH. SEPTR. 1754.

SIR & SIRS
Your most humble Servants

JACOB MOSSEL.
J. V. S. V. GOLLENISSE.
JL. VN. DR. WAYEN.
P. A. V. D. PARRA.
JN. V. D. SPAR.
L. HOREMAN.
. . . .
D: VANRHEEDEN.
ADRIAANDE NYS.
HT. VAN BASEL.
I. V. RIEMSDYK.

EXTRACT of the Contract and Articles whereby the Ponghoelos Radja Inda Sultan, and Dato Naghoda Gulang together with the Inhabitants of Natter are admitted and Acknowledg'd as Allies to the Company and everlasting Peace and Friendship establish'd on the terms of the following articles by the Ensign and Chief of this Expedition, Johannes Sas, also the Bookkeeper and Chief of Baros Nicholas Spring together with the Agents Barend Draypon Junior Merchant Johannes Steur Book Keeper Jacob Gondyn Mate Warner Oudman Second Mate, and Serjeant Johannes Kerkhoven by order of the Hoñble Abraham Bouden Chief and the Council of this West Coast of Sumatra at Padang in the Name of the Right Honble William van Oudhoorn Governour General and the Hoñble the Council of the Netherland's India on behalf of the Netherland's United East India Company and the Great King of Minancabo as their Stadholder.

1.

THAT the Chiefs (Panghoulous) and inhabitants of the Country of Nattar and places subject thereto do submit and put themselves under the protection of the Company and promise Allegiance to the King of Minancabo, as also to Radja Diller at Baros their Lawfull Lord, and declare that the Atcheeners and all other Enemys of the Company shall be esteem'd their Enemies.

2.

In Case they should be attack'd by any Foreigners or if any Hostilities should be committed against them, they shall give notice thereof to the Honble Company that what naval force may be ready may be sent to help protect and defend them.

4.

The Trade of these places which consists Chiefly in Camphyr, Camphir Oyl, Camphyr Wood, also Benjamin, Rosin, Slaves &ca. shall belong to the Honble Compy alone exclusive of all other Traders without being subject to any duties or Customs they having put themselves under the Companys Protection.

The foregoing Articles concluded by the Chiefs, great men and inhabitants of the Country of Nattar aforesaid and sworn to by them upon the Alcoran according to the Mahometan Custom and they as well as the said Company's Agents have sign'd the same at Nattar the first of February 1693.

THIS AGREE'S.

J. S. CRAAN.
F. G. CLERK.

No. 15.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CT. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

We have receiv'd your favours of the 16th. and Mr. Secry. Du Pre's Letter of the 18th. enclosing by your Order Invoice and Bill of Lading for 900 Bags of Rice, Laden on a Country boat call'd Vengadasha Permaul which Vessel arrived here Yesterday.

We beg leave to Offer our Compliments of Congratulation to the new President on his succeeding to the Government and wish him all manner of success in the Transacting the Companys Affairs.

Our Warehouse Keeper has deliver'd in a Letter to the board (Copy of which comes enclos'd) representing the necessity of selling of a Quantity of damag'd Wrappers &ct. We wait Your directions in regard to them.

Before your Honour &ct. fix'd the allowance to Colonel Adlercrons Regiment they were supplied with Matts, Oyl, Water, Pots, Pans &ct. the Monthly Charge of which amounts to near three Hundred Pagodas, this they Expect will be continued, the Officers likewise make daily demands for Tables Shelves, and divers other articles which will run the Company into Great Expence. We therefore beg your Positive directions in regard to these Several Demands.

Some years ago there were twelve Bales of Long Cloth delivered to Tenneveroy Pillah and Andeapah Modelary to dye Blue, this has been demanded Several times of them without Effect they allways returning for Answer that they had not settled their Accounts, as we imagined it was not just the Company should suffer by their private disputes. We sent for them a few days ago and

insisted upon their settling the proportion of the said Blue Cloth to be brought in by each directly but they absolutely refus'd to do it for which reason we confin'd them to the Fort in consequence of which they deliver'd in the Enclos'd Petitions, your Honour &ca. will observe that he was dismiss'd from his ¼ share of the Contract with the approbation of Mr. Floyer &ct. Council as you have all the Consultations of this Settlement during the time it was a Presidency We must request you will inform us of the truth of his Assertion. We must beg leave to offer it as our Opinion that he is a person utterly unfitt to be concern'd in the Company's Investment for reasons we have before represented to you.

Herewith you will receive an account of the Loss the Company sustain'd by the blowing up of the Magazine on Christmass day, as likewise an Account of the Timber and Plank Carryed away by the floods, in the late heavy rains, which we desire permission to write off to Profit & Loss.

We are with Respect,

FORT ST. DAVID — HONBLE SIR & SIRS

21ST. JANRY 1755. — Your most Obedt. Humble. Servants

RICHD. STARKE.
HUGH NORRIS.
ROBERT SLOPER.
RICHARD FAIRFIELD.
CHARLES TURNER.

TO RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

DEPTY GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST DAVID.

GENTLEMEN

Upon examining the remains of the Warehouses I find a Large Quantity of Wrappers Damaged Calicoes Remnants of Broad Cloth and one or two other Articles as specified in the accompanying List, which I am of opinion it would be proper to sell off as soon as possible because the further damage that may probably accrue to them by keeping longer will not add to their Value; I therefore desire that the President and Council may be advis'd thereof and their permission requested for the Sale.

There is likewise remaining of Salt Petre 130.0 B. Mds. and of Redwood 550 Candys which being Articles in no request here may as well be forwarded to Madrass as Conveyances offer.

I AM

FORT ST. DAVID — GENTLEMEN

20TH. JANRY. 1755. — Your most Obedient Humble. Servant

HUGH NORRIS
Warehousekeeper.

EXPORT WAREHOUSE.

	Cō	Ps.	Peices.	
Musters peices and Remnants ..	..	..	134	
Long Cloth Fine ..	10	..		Torn and damag'd.
Bateelas of 50 Covids ..	1	..		Torn and damag'd.
Bateelas of 40 Covids ..	..	10		Torn and damag'd.
Metchelip Chints Sashes ..	1	..		Torn and damag'd.
Jugdea Baffataes ..	20	..		Torn and damag'd.

WRAPPERS.

	Cō	Ps.
Long Cloth ..	106	..
Salampores ..	83	..

The Chief part of these Wrappers arose on the Colchester's Cargo.

GOODS FOR PRESENTS VIZ^T.

2 Coffee Pots	Pag^s.	10	—	—	
1 Alarm Clock		10	—	—	
19 Yards of Silver Lace		19	—	—	These things are in such Condition that I think they will hardly Sell for a fourth part of the value.
25½ Peices of CHINA Velvets		279	18	—	
21 Peices of Damask		192	2	20	
3 D°. Flower'd Silk		42	16	40	
1 D°. Chequered		9	—	—	
2 Dram Cases		8	—	—	
	Pag^s,	570	—	60	

IMPORT WAREHOUSE.

REMNANTS OF BROAD CLOTH PERPETUANOES VELVETS STUFFS &C^A.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL RICH^D. STARKE ESQ^R.

DEPUTY GOVERNOUR &C^A. COUNCIL OF FORT S^T. DAVID.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF TENEVEROY PILLA

SHEWETH

In M^r. Floyers Government, there was a disagreement between Your Petitioner and his partner Pandaram Modelary, whereof the Latter address'd the Governour to dismiss your Petitioner from his ¼ share of the Contract and engag'd and promised before the Governour and Council that he would be answerable and pay the Company the Ballance then due which the Governour and Council Accepted after this in your Worship's Government M^r. Sec^ry. S^t. Paul Sent for Cawn Modelary (who survived his Brother Pandarum deceas'd in the Contract) and your petitioner and told them both to sign the Books to be jointly answerable for the premention'd Ballance setting forth it was requisite for the Companys security Lest one might fail, but your Petitioner absolutely refus'd and acquainted him he had no concern in that Ballance and the Governour and Council as before related had accepted Pandarum Modelary's Engagement for the said Ballance which Answer M^r. Secretary represented to the Worshipful Board, and Cawn Modelary and Your Petitioner were sent for into Consultation, where your Petitioner gave your Worship and then Council to understand he was no ways concern'd with that Ballance this Transaction your Worship and Council were pleased to send to the Presidency for their Approbation and further directions, and the Honble President and Council answer'd and signified their sentiments in a General Letter that your Worship &c^a. had no demand on your Petitioner, and must receive from Cawn Modelary the Company's Ballance and that if there were any accounts unadjusted between Cawn Modelary, and your Petitioner that they should apply to Court for a determination of their Dispute Cawn Modelary being acquainted of this sign'd the Books to pay the same. If your Worship &c^a. will be pleas'd to retrospect the Books and the Last mention'd General Letter from the Presidency you will find your Petitioner has advanc'd no more than the truth & now the 8 Bales of Blue Cloth is included in the Premention'd Ballance which Cawn Modellary sign'd the Books and engag'd as aforesaid to pay the Company and was accepted of by the Presidency and your Worship &c^a. as before related, directed to make a demand on him for the same, and not on your Petitioner since your Petitioner has given your Worship &c^a. a true state of the Particulars of this case he flatters himself on a serious Consideration you will not judge it consistent with your Worship &c^a's. usual reason and equity. Your Petitioner

should be continued a Prisoner for Cawn Modelarys Debt or any part thereof after his engagement for the payment of the whole was accepted by the Governour and Council of the Presidency, therefore humbly begs Your Worship &ca. to Enlarge your Petitioner and Your Petitioner is allways ready to go to the Court of Madrass to decide the disputes between your Petitioner and Cawn Modelary and as in Duty bound will

EVER PRAY.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL RICHD. STARKE ESQR.

DEPUTY GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. DAVID.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF CAWN MODELLE

SHEWETH

Your Petitioner and Tenneveroy Modelle had contracted to provide Cloth for the Hoñble Company when Mr. Croke he then Accomptant had resign'd that employ, your Petitioner and his partner Tennaveroy Pille was indebted to the Hoñble Company 12 Bales of Blue Cloth when the Worshipful Richard Starke Esqr. Succeeded that Employ he Order'd your Petitioner and his partner to deliver them Bales, Your Petitioner reply'd that there was some difference betwixt him and his Partner where upon he Order'd both parties to Settle the difference and deliver the Ballance of their Accounts which they accordingly did Your Petitioner was indebted to the Company 4 Bales and His partner Tennevaroy Modelle 8 Bales and promised to satisfie them afterwards Tenneveroy Modelle and Govinda Chitty brought in 1000 Ps. of Long Cloth brown the Worshipful Richard Starke Esqr. he then Accomptant Order'd Grua Rouze the Compy̆s Conicoply to write off 8 bales Containing 24 Corge which Tennevaroy was indepted & brought 520 Peices or 24 Corge to account afterwards Your Petitioners Partners Tenneveroy & Govinda Chitty requested not to abate the 8 Bales from the 1000 Peices or 50 Corge and promis'd to satisfie the Ballance in a months time in the mean time the Worshipful Richard Starke return'd to Madrass, Grua Rauze the Compys Conicoply can inform Your Worship &ct. the same when Mr. Croke was Accomptant he order'd your Petitioners partner Tenneveroy to deliver the 8 Bales afterwards Tenneveroy and Irshippa Chitty went and spoke to Mr. Croke, about it if your Worship &ct. will be pleas'd enquire of Irshippa Chitty he will inform you with the truth of the matter therefore your Petitioner humbly craves that your Worship &ct. will be pleas'd to order his Partner Tenneveroy Modelle to deliver the 8 Bales that is due for his share and your Petitioner will deliver the remaing. 4 Bales which Favour will bind your Petitioner

EVER TO PRAY.

PROFIT AND LOSS DR. to Sundry Accounts Pags. 1135–17–60 for the following Particulars lost by the Magazine (on the Curtains near the Northwest Bastion) taking fire Vizt.

ARMORY STORES.

Musquet Catridges				178200	891

GUNNERS STORES.

	Quire.				
Catridge Paper	120 ..	10	..		
Powder Barrels	140 ..	46	24		
Hair Seives	1 ..	1	2		
				57	26

		Brought over Pag^s. ..		948	26	—

GENERAL STORES.

	Ps.						
Wax Cloth	16	.. 48	..				
Powder Chests	23	.. 48	9				
				96	9	—	

NAVAL STORES.

Tarpaulins	1	.. 10	..			
Twine Bengal	12 lb.	.. 21	..			
				10	21	—

BRAZIERS WARE.

Copper Hoops	30	.. ..	25	—	—
Cordage Coir Ropes	Md. 10	.. ..	9	—	—

SHOTT AND SHELLS.

Lead Shott 1470 lb		45	33	60
	PAG^s	1135	17	60

LIST of the following particulars lost by the fresh water current carrying them into the Sea on the 20th. November 1754.

Mango Plank	$27\frac{3}{4}$	.. ..	10	30	24
Prone D^o.	22	.. ..	10	16	..
Anjeely D^o.	111	.. ..	160	..	..
Pegu D^o.	4	.. ..	3	..	..
Timber Large and Small	38	.. ..	66	9	..
Joices	3	.. ..	8	27	..
Misen Cap	1	.. ..	1	6	60
Cross Tree	1	.. ..	2	24	60
Misen Yard	1	.. ..	4	14	50
Cross Jack	1	.. ..	3	26	50
Masts	4	.. ..	196	..	..
Anchor Stocks	3	.. ..	12	18	..
		PAG^s. ..	479	29	4

FORT S^T. DAVID
25TH. DECEM^R. 1754.

N°. 16.

TO THE HON^BLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR OF FORT S^T. GEORGE &c COUNCIL.

HON^BLE SIR & SIRS

This serves to accompany the Accounts and papers for last month and to Subscribe myself with the Greatest Respect.

HON^BLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient and most oblig'd humble Servant
CHARLES HOPKINS.

DEVE COTAH
20TH. JAN^RY 1755.

No. 17.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

President & Governour of Fort St. George &c Council.

Honble Sir & Sirs

This waits on your Honour &ca. with the Accounts of this place for last Month Inclosed comes also an Indent of Stores for the ensuing year which you will be pleased to order by some conveyance hither.

I am with the Greatest Esteem

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. & most Oblig'd humble Servant

John Andrews.

Bandarm'lka
the 10th. Janry 1755.

No. 18.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

President & Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd your favour of the 24th. ℔ Arcot Snow.

Notwithstanding all our Endeavours We are sorry to acquaint you the whole of our Investment this season is but 210 Bales which will be cur'd by 20th. February. We request your Directions whether we shall detain the Arcot till that time or dispatch her directly with what few may be ready and expect some future Conveyance for the remainder.

Agreable to Your Commands we have kept all the turnd out Cloth in the Godown which may be about 100 Bales, you will please to let us know your pleasure Concerning it.

Our Cash by frequent Demands being reduced to about 30,000 Pagodas We must request you will send us a further Supply.

We are with Respect,

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most obedient Humble Servants

Richard Starke.
Hugh Norris.
Robert Sloper.
Richard Fairfeild.
Charles Turner.

Fort St. David
27th. Janry. 1755.

No. 19.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

President & Governour of Fort St. George &ca. Council.

Honble Sir & Sirs

This waits on your Honour &ca. by the George Sloop Captain Thomas Reason by whom I have sent One Hundred twenty Seven Bales of Cloth on account of the Honble Company as ℔ Invoice and Bill of Lading Inclosed the

Quantity is small but I think far superior to that sent in September last, and is indeed the best and all I could possibly Get the French have been so eager and extravagant in their Demands for Cloth that for two months past I have not been able to get one Bale so soon as they collected their Ballances which I think will be shortly I hope to commence the Investment for the ensuing year more satisfactorily and pursue it more successfully than the Last.

I am with the Greatest Esteem

BANDARMALANKA — HONBLE SIR & SIRS

THE 26TH. JANRY. 1755. — Your most Obedient & most Oblig'd h'ble. Servt.

JOHN ANDREWS.

No. 20.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.

PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

This waits on you by the Hartop Snow with 200 Bales of Callicoes on account of our Honble Masters as ℔ Invoice and Bill of Lading Inclos'd We should have dispatch'd them sooner; had not our Washers delay'd us longer than we could have wish'd however your Honour &ca. will observe the Greatest Part of our Cloth is white We have also upwards of twenty Bales more remaining at the Wash, but were unwilling to detain the Vessel any longer. Your Orders being to dispatch early, as our utmost care has been employ'd in providing this Investment should it be so happy to meet with your Honours &ca. approbation it will give us the utmost satisfaction.

We were yesterday favour'd with Your Honours &ca's. Command's of the 29th. Ultimo and shall strictly observe the Conduct you direct us to persue in regard to Ibrahim Gordee, he has not since made any Application to us and is at Present with Viziaramrauze on the other side of Chickacul accommodating Affairs with the Rajah Narian Dieu.

We herewith transmit you a Duplicate of our last ℔ the St. Reta, likewise our Duplicate Journal & Ledger Cash Account and other Papers. We take the Liberty to inclose Your Honour &ca. Indents of our Warehouse and Storekeepers which we shall esteem as a particular favour if you can comply with.

There goes in this Vessel John Adambone one of our Military, who having serv'd his contracted time and requesting his discharge we have granted it.

We are with Great Respect

VIZAGAPATAM — HONBLE SIR & SIRS

25TH. JANRY 1755. — Your most Obedient humble Servants

J. L. SMITH.

MARMADUKE BEST.

INDENT of Wares wanting at this Factory Vizt.

BROAD CLOTH FINE.

Scarlet	4 Bales
Grass Green	2 Bales

Perpetuanoes	ORDINARY.
Blue	1 Bale.
Green	1
Red	4
Yellow	1
	— 7 Bales.
Emboss'd Carpets	10
Madeira Wine	10 Pipes

VIZAGAPATAM.
25 JANRY 1755

J. L. SMITH,
Warehouse Keeper.

INDENT of stores Wanting at the Factory of Vizagapatam.

	CY.	MD.	lb.
30ft. Nails	..	10	
26py. Do.	..	10	..
10py. Do.	..	10	..
6py. Do.	..	10	..
Spike Nails	1	..	..
Scopper Nails	..	3	..
Red Lead	..	10	..
Brass Compasses	..	..	6
Wooden Compasses	..	..	6
Log Lines	..	..	36
Pattans	..	..	40 Bundles
Pitch	..	..	10 Barrels
Half hour Glasses	..	..	12
Half Minute Do.	..	..	12
One Hour Do.	..	..	2
Drum Heads	..	..	36
Drum Lines	..	..	24
Drum Hoops	..	..	6
Emmery	..	..	1 Md.

VIZAGAPATAM
JANRY 25th. 1755.

MARMADUKE BEST,
Storekeeper.

INDENT of Ordnance and Military Stores for the Garrison.

VIZAGAPATAM. 25TH JANRY. 1755.

BRASS ORDNANCE

3	Pounders Compleat	2
8	Inch Howetzer	1

IRON SHOTT.

18	Pounders	200
12	Do.	400
3	Do.	1000

SHELLS.

8	Inches	300
	Royals	100
	Cohorns	100
	Hand Granadoes	500

COPPER SADDLES OF SORTS.

18	Pounders	4
12	Do.	6
3	Do.	3

STORES &CRA.

Gun Bitts	60
Priming Irons	100
Powder Horns	30
Linstocks	20
Lawn Seives	2
Hair Do. Coarse	4
Empty Tubes	500
Salting Boxes	2

GUN POWDER.

Europe Cannon Barrlls.	10
Do. Fine	15
Country Cannon	75
Do. Fine	25

J. SEATON.

LIST of the Packet ℘ Hartop Vizt.

No. 1 Duplicate General Letter.
2 General Letter dated 25th. Jañry. 1755.
3 Invoice and Bill of Lading for 200 Bales of Calicoes.
4, 5 } Journal and Ledger ending April 1754 2nd. Copy.
6 Calculate of Quick Stock to 24th. Janry.
7 Cash Account for last Month.
8 Diaries for November and December 1754.
9 List of Covenanted Servants.
10 Do. of Inhabitants.
11 Do. of the Revenues.
12 Annual Returns of the Garrison of Vizagm.
13 Paymasters Accounts for November & Decemr. 1754.
14 Pay Masters Accounts compar'd monthly with the month Preceeding for Novr. & Xber.
15 General Increase & Decrease.
16 Book of Paymasters Accounts Ending Apl. 1754.
17 Warehouse Indent.

18 Storehouse Indent.
19 Annual Report of the Hospital.
20 Chirstnings & Burials.
21 List of the Packet.

MARMADUKE BEST
Secretry.

No. 21.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.,
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR OF FORT ST. GEORGE &CA. COUNCIL.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

By the Winchelsea We have address'd your Honour &ca. fully Duplicate of which Letter we now enclose The Britannia Captain Nevel Norway's being taken we now consign her to your Honour &ca. and enclose Invoice and Bill of Lading of what we have put on board amounting to Current Rupees 17778. 3. 9.

Mr. William Ellis, who dispatches this Ship from Ingelle will advise you what else may be necessary from thence.

We wish her a safe and speedy passage to your Honours &ca. and we are

FORT WILLIAM
THE 13 JANRY 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient humble Servants

ROGER DRAKE JUNR.
E. H. CRUTTENDEN.
C. MANNINGHAM.
RICHD. BECHER.
PAUL RICHD. PEARKES.
WM. FRANKLAND.
WM. MACKETT.
EDWD. EYRE.
J. Z. HOLWELL.

LIST of the Packet ℔ Britannia.

1 General Letter dated 13th. January 1755.
2 Duplicate Do. Do. 10th. Do.
3 Invoice ℔ Britannia.
4 Bill of Lading ℔ Do.
5 Second Bill of Lading ℔ Winchelsea.
6 Copy Britania's Charter Party.
7 Do. Captain Norways Sailing Orders.

No. 22.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

Pursuant to an Order receiv'd from the Honble the President and Council of Fort William the 13th. Instant to proceed to dispatch this Ship, I set out accordingly and arrived on board this Day.

I have muster'd the Ships Company and receiv'd the Master Attendants Report of her Guns and ammunition and the Captain having sign'd his Bills of Lading I now enclose to your Honour &c^a^. the said Report, and muster Roll of the Ships Company.

The Ship draws 19th. Feet upon an Even Keel I have deliver'd the Captain his Dispatches and Wish the Ship a safe and prosperous Voyage and am with the Greatest Respect

ON BOARD SHIP BRITTANIA
OFF INGELIE THE 18TH. JANRY. 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedt. humble Servt.
WM. ELLIS.

No. 23.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

Since the signing of the Ship Britannia's Bills of Lading I have had an Account of twenty seven Bags of Rice being returned to Calcutta, that were greatly damag'd in the Passage down.

I am with the greatest Respect

SHIP BRITANNIA IN INGELLE ROAD
THE 18TH. JANRY. 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedt. humble Servant
W. ELLIS.

No. 24.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

We have receiv'd your several favours of the 29th. and 30th. ultimo.

In consequence of your Orders respecting the turn'd out Cloth, the Board met yesterday in the sorting Godown and after the strictest examination we beg leave to offer it as our opinion that excepting 10 Bales of Salem which we have taken in at an abatement of 2 Pagodas the rest is so extreamly bad that we cannot in Justice to our Employers think of acepting [*sic*] it even though the Merchants would be prevailed on to make a very considerable abatement which is far from being the Case. This we think it our indispensable Duty to represent to you before we venture to comply with your directions but if you think proper to repeat them they shall immediately be put in Execution If any is taken in it must necessarily be embal'd Brown because even now it is too late to think of Curing it.

Our Consultations and monthly Accounts with the first copy of our General Books Ending 30th. April 1754 now wait on you the second Copy shall be dispatch'd in few days.

As Cawn Modellaire & Teneveroy Pilla are of no manner of service in the Investment we have Order'd them to sett out next monday for Madrass with their Accounts.

G. Mls.

There is a deficiency in the Rice ℔ Vengadasha Permal of 1. 101 upon demanding Satisfaction of the Boat fellow he inform'd us his owner resides at Madrass of whom it must be recover'd.

We have receiv'd the Pagodas ℔ Fortune Snow. We are with Respect

FORT ST. DAVID
5TH. FEBRY 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient humble Servants
RICHD. STARKE
&CA. COUNCIL.

No. 25.

TO THE HONBLE THOMAS SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

We have rec'd your several Letters of the 12th. 16th. and 17th. October ℔ ships Colchester, Britannia Kent and London which ships have safely imported here.

Agreable to what your Honour &ca. intimated in regard to the employment of the Supernumerary Ships We have station'd the Britannia and Kent for your Coast and the London for Bombay and Surat. As soon as the two former are laden with Grain We shall consign them to your Honour &ca. and if you can return them both to Europe Via China it will be doing our Honble Masters a very Considerable peice of service as the number of ships to be dispatch'd home next will otherwise fall very heavy on this Settlement.

We have consign'd John Pybus Esqr. and the Council of Fort Marlbro Sundry Stores on the Elizabeth Captain Edward Wills agreable to their Indent amounting to 6 Rs. on which ship we put 200 Tons of Salt Petre and 30 Tons of Red Wood and have directed Captain Wills to [*subsequent portion of this letter missing in the original*].

[*Letters Nos.* 26–56 *missing in the original.*]

[Letter No. 5.]

[*Previous portion of this letter missing.*]

Your Mint Master, it will well answer to our Honble Masters to send them to Your Place to be coin'd into Arcot Rupees, which we shall attend to whenever occasion requires.

Our last address was forwarded your Honour &ca. by the Hardwicke Storeship.

We are

BOMBAY CASTLE
11 MARCH 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Servants
RICHD. BOURCHIER.
H. SYMMONS.
WM. SEDGWICKE.
J. BYFELD.
WM. HORNBY.
WM. A. PRICE.
J. SPENCER.

No. 58.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.

President and Governour &ca. Council of Madrass.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

We have duely received your favours of the 14th. December 9th. & 22nd. January, and Congratulate the Honble George Pigot Esqr. on his taking Charge of the Government of Madrass wishing success to our Hoñble Masters Affairs under his Management.

This is dispatch'd Express to give Cover to the enclos'd Packets for your Presidency this Instant receiv'd from Bombay.

On the 8th. January last Warwick was finally dispatch'd hence for Great Britain, and she left Anjengo on the 19th. following; as did the York likewise the 27th Ultimo and we are in hourly expectation of the arrival of the Prince Henry and Shaftsbury from Bombay. The former was to take in some Pepper at Onore and will be fill'd up at this Settlement or Anjengo, and the latter is compleatly loaded with Coffee. The London sail'd hence for Surat on the 6th. Instant as did the St. George the 13th. following for said Port.

The Centaur, a large French Ship sail'd a few days since from Myhie, with a Cargoe of Pepper, bound as we hear for Mauritius & Europe.

We have upwards of one thousand Candies of Pepper in Warehouse and make no doubt of having by the end of October or November next highest seven thousand (7000) Candies, three of which including the above remains will be deliver'd in, all the month of May ensuing.

We are

Tellicherry Honble Sir & Sirs

22nd. March 1755. Your most Obedient humble Servants

Thos. Hodges.
S. Evans.
Thos. Satchwell.

No. 59.

To the Honourable Thomas Saunders Esqr.

President & Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

By our Hoñble Masters Ship Prince George importing here the 4th. Ultimo, we receiv'd your Commands of the 21st. October last, which we shall now reply to But as our Address to the Honble Court of Directors under date the 10th. ultimo by the Grantham Contains a very particular Account of our Transactions to that time, (Copy of which we now enclose for your perusal) we shall only here touch upon such parts of your Letter as more immediately require answering and the Occurrences that have happen'd since her departure deserving your Notice which you will find under the following establish'd heads.

First Concerning Shipping.

2. The Grantham after having been at the Northern Settlements for the pepper lying there was fill'd up here from whence she sail'd the 14th. Ultimo

Tons. cwt. qrs. lb.

with 424. 3....23 the ship intended us from Bengal we daily expect, and shall

have we compute on her arrival nearly three hundred Tons of Pepper on hand; we shall however lade no more on board her than is sufficient to compleat her Charter party Tonnage reserving the remainder for next years Ship, which with the surplus this Season's Crop will probably afford, may enable us to take off a larger proportion of Tonnage than usual, but of this We shall be somewhat better able to judge by the Prince George's return from her next Trip.

The Mary Sloop was dispatch'd to Moco Moco and Nattall with supplys of Stores for those places the 1st. Instant, but the Master finding a Leak in her Upper Works two or three days after sailing was oblig'd to put back again; she went into Pooloo Harbour from whence the Captain advis'd us of this Accident, The Carpenter was immediately sent down to his assistance, and we imagine by the Masters Acct. that she will be fit for the Sea again to morrow or next day when she will proceed to her Consign'd Ports.

The Marlbro Hoy is now repair'd and afloat, she is intended for the Service of Nattall residency and to be station'd there as Mr. Carter advises she may go in and out that river with Safety we shall dispatch her thither in four or five days.

All the other Vessells belonging to our Honble Masters are in the same state as when we Wrote them ℔ Grantham, except that the only serviceable Long Boat we had has been since hauld on shore to be repair'd.

We much Wish this Vessell may arrive in time to prosecute the Plan Laid down by your Honr. &ca. for her future destination, but we are apprehensive her Calling to the Northward will be the means of frustrating it. The Captain we found put in at Sinkell and Tappanaouly in his way to Nattall, which being a deviation, we thought it necessary to demand his reasons for such procedure, and a sight of the Ships Logg Book, the former he delivr'd in which are enter'd on our Consultations, and by the latter it appear'd that he was eight days at Tappanaouly, altho the Leak which by his Account occasion'd his putting in

[*Pages, in the Original missing.*]

buildings and not brought to account five thousand the particulars relating to this matter are inserted in Consultation and what remain there unaccounted for Mr. Massey will be charg'd with all that relates to the Honble Companys demand on that Gentlemen is now adjusted.

46. The Manifest of Private Trade on board this ship comes a number in this Packet.

47. The Ballance of our Honble Masters Cash remaining here this day is in Dollars Soocas and Cash $ 93308. 2. 88 ninety three thousand three Hundred and eight Spanish Dollars two Soocas and Eighty Eight Cash.

Fort Marlbro
20th Febry. 1755.

We are very Respectfully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most hble Servants

John Pybus.
Thomas Combes.
Rd. Marriott.
Joseph Gunn.
Richard Wyatt.

Postscript.

The Certificates we have Granted on Your Honour &ca. are for the following sums paid into Cash here Vizt.

		Dollrs.			Pags.	fas.	ca.
1	Set in favour of Mr. Richd. Wyatt pay to Mr. John Walsh	1000	—	—	606	2	14
1	Do. in favour of Mr. Robert Nairne pay to Mr. George Stratton	1904	1	63	1154	6	56
1	Do. in favour of the Revd. Mr. Arthur Neill payable to Mr. Jno. Walsh or Order	600	—	—	363	22	72
1	Do. in favour of Captain Edwd. Pero payable to Mr. Willm. Burton ..	222	2	—	134	30	43
1	Do. in favour of Do. pay to Mr. Thos. Pelling or Order	82	—	—	49	25	7
5 Setts		$ 3808	3	63	2308	15	32

Five Setts Certificates amounting to three thousand and Eight hundred and Eight Spanish Dollars three soocas and Sixty three Cash, or two thousand three hundred and Eight Pagodas fifteen Fanams and thirty two Cash.

We are

Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort Marlbro

26th. Febry. 1755.

Your most Obedient and most humble. Servant

John Pybus.
Thos. Combes.
Rd. Marriott.
Joseph Gunn.
Richard Wyatt.

List of Books in the Fort Marbro Packet for Fort St. George ℘ Ship Prince George.

No. 1	Diarys and Consultations	Comg. 10th. Augst. / Endg. Ulto. Decr.	1754
2	Do.	Comg. 1st. Janry. / Endg. 23d. Febry.	1755
3	Letters Sent	Comg. 10th. Augst. / Endg. Ulto. Decr.	1754
4	Ditto	Comg 1st. Janry. / Endg. 23d. Febry.	1755
5	Letters Receiv'd	Comg. 10th. Augt. / Endg. Ulto. Decr.	1754
6	Ditto	Comg. 1st. Janry. / Endg. 23d. Febry.	1754
7	Cash Account	Comg. 1 Augst. / Endg. 31st. Janry.	1753 / 1754
8	Journal and Ledger H H	Comg. 1st. May. / Endg. Ulto. April	1753 / 1754
9	Journal Parcels	Comg. 1st. May. / Fndg. Ulto. Novr.	1754
10	Paymasters Accounts	Comg. st June / Engd. Ulto. Novr.	1754

List of Books in the Fort Marlbro Packet for Fort St. George ℘ Ship Prince George—*cont*.

11	Sea Customers Accounts	Com^{g}. 1st. June End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
12	Storekeepers D^{o}.	Com^{g}. 1st. June End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
13	Military Storekeepers Accounts ..	Com^{g}. 1st. June End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
14	D^{o}. Paymasters D^{o}. ..	Com^{g}. 1st. Jan̄ry End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
15	Warekeepers D^{o}. ..	Com^{g}. 1st. Jan̄ry. End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
16	Pepper Godown Keepers D^{o}. ..	Com^{g}. 1st. Janry. End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1753 1754
17	Moco Moco Journal and Ledger ..	Com^{g}. 1st. May End^{g}. 30th April	D^{o}.
18	Natal D^{o}. D^{o}. ..	Com^{g}. 1st. May End^{g}. 30 April	D^{o}.
19	Croee D^{o}. D^{o}. ..	Com^{g}. 1st. May End^{g}. 30 April	D^{o}.
20	Register of Court Martials and Enquiry.	Com^{g}. 6th. Augst. End^{g}. 4th Feb^{ry}.	1754 1755
21	Abstracts of receipts Issues and remains of Stores.	Com^{g}. 1st. May End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	1754
22	D^{o}. D^{o}. D^{o}. Military D^{o}.	Com^{g}. 1st. May End^{g}. Ult^{o}. Nov^{r}.	D^{o}.

Robert Nairne,

Fort Marlbro 23 Febry 1755. *Sec^{ry}.*

List of Papers Contain'd in the Fort Marlbro Packet to Fort S^{t}. George ℘ Ship Prince George.

No. 1 General Letter to the Hon̄ble the President & Council of Fort S^{t}. George dated 20th. Febry. 1755.

2 Copy General Letter to the Honble Court of Directors ℘ Grantham dated 10th. Jan̄ry 1755.

3 Copy of the Indent for Stores ℘ Ship Grantham.

4 D^{o}. D^{o}. Medicines P^{r}. D^{o}.

5 Surgeons List of Deaths and Diseases from 1st. Augst. 1754 to 22nd. Febr̄y. 1755.

6 Paymasters Lists of Slaves, Transports, Country Guards & Lascars at Fort Marlb̄ro & its dependencies.

7 Paymasters Abstract of standing Charges.

8 Account D^{o}. Pepper.

9 Produce of Pepper at Fort Marlbro and its Dependency in 1753 and 1754.

10 Abstract of the surveys of the Plantations.

11 Account Current with the Arrack and sugar Undertakers Febr̄y. 1755.

12 Account of Arrack and Sugar deliver'd by the Undertakers since the commencement of their Contract.

13 Resident of Natal's account of the Arrival and departure of Vessells from 1st. October to 27th. Decemb^{r}. 1754.

14 Cash Account from 1st. to the 23rd. Febry. 1755.

15 Copy of Captain Olivers dispatches dat^{d}. 10th. Jan^{ry}. 1755.

16 Account Current of Ship Prince George dat^{d}. 22^{d}. Febr^{y}. 1755.

17 Invoice of Sundrys shipp'd on board the Prince George dat^{d}. 18th. Febry 1755.

18 Captain Ormstons first Bill of Lading for Sundrys Laden on board the Prince George.

19 List of the Covenanted Serv^{ts}. on the West Coast of Sumatra.

20 Muster Roll of the 1st. Company of Foot Soldiers at F^{t}. Marlbro.

21 D^{o}. D^{o}. 2nd. D^{o}.

22 D^{o}. D^{o}. Company of Artillery.

23 List of free Inhabitants, Seafaring Men, Women, and Children at Fort Marlbro.

24 List of Baptism, marriages and Burials.

25 Copy General Letter to the Governour & Council of S^{t}. Helena ℘ Grantham dat^{d}. 10th. Janry. 1755.

26 Packet to the President and Council of Bombay.

27 D^{o}. D^{o}. D^{o}. Bengal.

28 D^{o}. D^{o}. D^{o}. Fort S^{t}. George.

29 Supravizors Seperate Packet to the President and Council of Fort S^{t}. George.

30 List of Books and Papers contain'd in this Packet.

31 Copy of Captn. Ormston's Dispatch dat^{d}. 23^{d}. Febry 1755.

32 D^{o}. Letter from D^{o}. to the Supravizor and Council dat^{d}. 21st. Febry 1755.

33 D^{o}. of the Supravizors and Councils answer to Captain Ormston dat^{d}. 23 Febry. 1755.

34 Account of Military Stops reced ℘ Prince George dated 20th. Febry 1755.

35 M^{r}. Carters Manifest of Goods shipp'd on board the Prince George at Natal.

36 Goods on board the Prince George Manifested at Fort Marlbro.

37 Captains Ormstons first receipt for the Packet.

38 Accountants Calculate of Quick Stock to Ult^{o}. Novr. 1754

ROBERT NAIRNE

FORT MARLBRO 23 FEBRY 1753. *Sec^{ry}.*

N°. 60.

TO THE HONBLE THO^{S}. SAUNDERS ESQ^{R}.

PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &C^{A}. COUNCIL OF FORT S^{T}. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

My last to you was under date the 9th. September last Duplicate Whereof comes inclos'd you will likewise receive herewith Copy of my letter to the Honble Court of Directors ℘ ship Grantham, but as I have not been favour'd with any particular Commands from you as Supravizor, and have answered every part of your Letter ℘ Prince George either in the advices to England ℘ Grantham or

those address'd to your Honour &c^a^. by this ship so far as relate to all Transactions of a Publick Nature, I shall here only take the Liberty of offering some few remarks on your above mention'd Letter and what relates to my own Conduct in the management of affairs here to your Consideration.

The Ophium Trade at Natal is what I shall first treat on; The footing Your Honour &c^a^. have been pleas'd to put it on, will I hope prove advantageous to our Honble Masters, which however cannot possibly be look'd for, unless an absolute Stop is put to its being brought on this Coast by Private Traders from Bengal as the consumption of it at our own Settlements only, can be suppos'd but trifling and if the Markets where it is in most demand are supplied with it with so much convenience, as having it brought them by other Vessells, unattended with risque and expence and at as Cheap rates too, as they could buy it for were they to come to us for it, but little of their Custom is to be expected and I can see no means how so large a Quantity as Eighty Chests are to be dispos'd of otherwise. The Gentlemen of Bengal have however not sent us any this year, but by Private Information to be depended on, I hear that a Vessell belonging to that place is now to the Northward with a large Parcel on board supplying those Ports where the Companys only can be vended at, and which as I have before observ'd if not put a Stop to they never can expect to sell a Chest, I mention this that your Honor &c^a^. may take measures accordingly as I conclude we shall not fail being supply'd next year with the Quantity you have wrote for. The restrictions you have laid on this Article, Iron, and Salt consider'd in their Strictest sense totally exclude Companys Servants or those living under their protection from purchasing them even out of their Warehouses for Exportation this however must be done by the Malays, and I conceive the Intent of these regulations is chiefly to prevent the importation of those Articles on private Account, and not to deprive the Companys Servants of reaping any benefits which may be made by the purchase and Exportation of them to other Markets by confining that Indulgence solely to the Malays and Chinese, The Ophium Farms are I conclude to be continu'd on their present footing and the Farmers supplied out of the Companys Warehouse which has been usually done at Fort Marlbro at an advance of fifty ℔ Cent your particular explanation relating to the above prohibitions I must request to be favour'd with, as I would gladly in every respect act conformable to your Intentions and orders.

The Proposals made by M^r^. Walsh and me for farming the Ophium Licence at Natal and the Ophium to be supply'd by the Company at fifty ℔ Cent advance to be paid in money; I cannot still Help thinking would be the most advantagious method for our Honble Masters unless you may be pleas'd to determine that Benjamin, Camphire and Gold Dust shall be receiv'd in Exchange for it, a monthly rent too to be paid the Company by the Farmer Exclusive of the fifty ℔ Cent advance on the Prime Cost of the Ophium may be probably be procur'd but of this I can at present Write nothing certain.

The General Prohibitions relating to the Importation of all Goods and Merchandize of what kind so ever unless Manifested at the Coast appear to me to want clearing up, as, if they are consider'd in the Strictest sense the Words, all Trade From Batavia, China or any other part where the Gentlemen here may find it consistent with their Interest to send their Vessells is absolutely forbid under the penalty of seizure of the Goods Imported by them. The subsequent Parã seems to evince that such are not your intentions, as you there admit the importation of Balla, Java &c^a^. Clouting, in consequence of which you will find by the Publick Advices, that I have taken upon me to continue the Trade to and from Batavia on its old footing, till your further determination should be known in this matter, which I hope will be communicated so fully as to leave no room for doubt in putting your Orders in Execution.

The Parã of your Publick letter ℔ Prince George, relating to M^r^. Totties Pretensions to Manna Residency, I presume that Gentlemans late Conduct would of itself be a sufficient answer to, but as I can not help conceiving the Notice

you have been pleas'd to take of this matter carries with it an insinuation of partiality in Mr. Walsh and me towards Mr. Darvall I shall here take the liberty of endeavours., to clear our Characters from any such imputation; Partiality will be I conclude readily admitted to have its rise either from interested motives or a particular private regard for one man more than another; That this could not be the case in the present instance is very evident, as Mr. Darvall was a person utterly Unknown to us for upwards of two months after our Arrival Mr. Tottie by being present on the spott had the Advantage of acquainting us with his pretensions as well by letter as in Person, in both which indeed he was very early pressing and solicitous; To have determin'd immediately in his Favour solely on the consideration of his being senior in standing without looking further would have been judg'd I presume as precipitate as our determination herein has appear'd partial, more knowledge of Mr. Tottie soon convinc'd us that he was not a Person cut out for the Management of so valuable a Settlement as that of Manna, as well from his want of a sufficient knowledge of the Malay Language as very indifferent Qualifications for business of any kind; But we were not long Strangers to his bad circumstances likewise which alone would have been an Objection of weight sufficient against placing him in any Employ of that kind as he would have been too far removed for us to have made an immediate discovery of any fraudulent Practices he might have been guilty of which his presence at the board under whose inspection his transactions directly came render'd much less difficult, On the other hand we found by the best enquiry we could make that Mr. Darvall was perfectly well qualified for the trust he was in, had been Called from that Settlement when assistant to Mr. Carter to the employ of Accountant here a place there was then no one besides himself judg'd Qualified for when Assurances had been made him that it should be no detriment to him and a kind of promise given him at the same time of succeeding Mr. Carter in that Charge on his removal, no objection therefore appearing to Mr. Darvall we thought it inconsistent with our Honble Masters Interest to remove him on the mere plea of seniority in standing and in favour of one too who had no other merit or pretensions whatever to recommend him to such promotion. What I have here offer'd will I hope very sufficiently acquit us from all imputation of partiality, and I can most solemnly aver that party, prejudice nor Interest ever had the least share in our Transactions, but our Honble Masters Wellfare only faithfully and Zealously consider'd and promoted by all such measures as appear'd to us most conducive towards it, which I flatter myself the event in the Instance I am now speaking to will in a great measure evince; Your observation on Mr. Darwalls being employ'd here as Secretary and yet continued in his Residency of Manna I shall here likewise reply to, which however represented to your Honour &ca. by Mr. Tottie I hope to make appear was no such extraordinary Indulgence, very fortunately for us just at the time of the Death of Mr. William Smith our Secretary Mr. Darvall was by permission come up to Marlbro on some private concerns, and altho he was an entire Stranger to that branch of business yet on an Examination of the List of servants, we found no one whom we could consider as so well qualified for it; He was accordingly appointed and tho call'd to it at a time when the consideration of and examination into the most essential Points of our Commission as Supravizer were enter'd on, yet acquitted himself in it with the utmost diligence and assiduity, this was far from being a desirable employ as not being attended with any kind of advantage but constant Labour and attendance as well as very considerable expences to Mr. Darvall by being oblig'd to reside with his Family all that time at Marlbro. This Branch could not I am persuaded have been so well executed by any other Servant, and how, equitable it would have been to have rewarded these his services with the loss of his Residency when he had render'd himself so conspicuously usefull to his employers. I submit to your Candid determination and cannot help in this place remarking that Mr. Darvall free from the least share of favour or partiality bears in my opi-

nion a prior rank to any servant on this Establishm^t^. Messrs. Combes and Carter excepted and has a very just title to a priority in standing (from his long Services) to those who have been making application to supplant him on that footing only, without the least Claim on the score of merit, for he came out in the year 1742 with Messrs. Combes and Carter station'd for S^t^. Helena from whence he was remov'd after about six years service and had the Mortification to be superceded by four or five who were far from deserving any such preference from superiour Qualifications, though fortunate enough to obtain it by Superior Interest, his present rank in the Service, allowing him to have his Standing tho suppos'd to be last of the List the year he came out would be next to M^r^. Gunn, and which I cannot but think him intitled to as well in equity as desert; your Honour &c^a^. in directing M^r^. Tottie to be station'd at Manna Residency in the room of M^r^. Darvall seem to have had no regard to the resolution of Consultation of the 29th. March last where it was determin'd that the council board should allways consist of the Deputy Governour and four members Resident at Marlbro which as you have not been pleas'd to revoke by any direct order was I imagine not attended to by you when these directions were given, but I doubt not the reasons will appear obvious why such a number of present members is requisite without my pointing them out to you, and dare take upon me to assert that to the want of such regulations has been owing the many Irregularitys, negligences, and animositys which this Settlement has been so peculiarly distinguishable by, as the whole Authority may otherwise with much ease be invested in the Deputy Governour, or if he is inclin'd to give his proceedings a better Appearance in the hands of him and his favourite. Had M^r^. Tottie been sent to Manna in consequence of your directions some other member of the Board must have been call'd from his Residency to supply the vacancy which his removal would have occasion'd, and there is no one Inferiour to Him but M^r^. Preston, but as M^r^. Tottie's appointment to Manna could have turn'd only on Seniority of Standing to the Present Resident M^r^. Mariott might from the same Plea have demanded Natall, M^r^. Carter again insisted on that of Manna another person Senior to M^r^. Preston that of Croee and so on till every Resident on the whole was chang'd as this Indulgence if granted to one could not with equity have been refus'd the rest, and what confusion this must have occasion'd, is much easier conceiv'd than described, M^r^. Walsh could I am perswaded have clear'd this matter up to your Honour &c^a^. had an explanation been requir'd of him, and I cannot but express to you the particular Satisfaction it would have given me had I been honour'd with your directions for so doing by a seperate Address as Supravizor as I Judge myself only accountable to you and my Employers for my Conduct while I have the Honour of holding this Commission, and not to those whose bad management I conceive myself intended to inspect and amend, the Notice you have been pleas'd to take of this Affair in your Publick Address will I imagine give rise to many other remonstrances of the same Nature as M^r^. Tottie's. M^r^. Rich^d^. Wyatt late Resident of Laye now call'd to a Seat at the Board has made application to me (on the Plea, of seniority too) for the Residency of Manna, but I gave him for answer that had he even better pretensions than those merely of rank I would not remove M^r^. Darvall and that he was appointed in consequence of our resolution in Consultation of the 29th. March last to supply the vacancy at the Board occasion'd by M^r^. Totties dismission; His reply was that by your Orders for sending M^r^. Tottie thither it did not seem as if you thought it necessary such regulations should be observ'd, and that as he had made known his claim to me and I did not think proper to do him justice he knew were to seek it, so that I conclude he purposes addressing, himself. to your Honour &c^a^. on this subject I confess I little expected, a transaction of so little Consequence would have been consider'd in the light your Honour &c^a^. seem to have taken it and have subjected our Characters to the imputation of partiality. If some degree of confidence is not to be placed in the decisions and determinations of the Gentlemen in trust here (by whom I mean the Deputy

Governour and Council) but encouragement given to the Servants to refer themselves on every Trifling occasion to your Honour &c^a^. it never will be possible for them, to maintain a proper share of authority which must in such Case be liable to their impertinent Sarcasms and Jeers knowing them to be of themselves of no weight and the Respect due to Gentlemen in those Stations must of course fall to the Ground, I have had some late Proofs of this as well in relation to the matter above recited as the Bond and Interest note taken from the Executors of M^r^. Henry Coales which being an Act evidently founded on our Hon̄ble Masters Interest and what I am inclin'd to think was a point of Duty absolutely incumbent on us, and as the detention of those Papers till their pleasure was known, could not I apprehend have been attended with any bad consequences; I could have wish'd for reasons hinted at above that our proceedings in that affair had met wth your Confirmation and Approval.

M^r^. Beach has address'd a Letter to the Board on the subject of his being Depriv'd the Employs of Pepper Godown keeper and Warekeeper and appointed assistant to the Paymaster wherein you will observe he has most insolently insinuated my being Pique'd against him and when I desir'd an Explanation from him of that part of it, he told me he could conclude no otherwise from my not having for some time invited him to my Table, He is indeed so contemptable a being (in my Eye at least) that I have not shewn an over fondness for his Company is certain, but I presume a person in station here is not tied down to any Rule of that kind any more than elsewere, as it would be rather too severe a tax to be oblig'd to feast and bear the impertinence of people whose Company Cannot but be Irksome; On this foundation only has he taken the liberty of aspersing me, but I shall be at no pains to acquit myself of any slander he is able to lay on me in that particular at least, any otherwise than by assuring you he has scarcely ever employ'd one single thought of mine in a private way so much do I hold him undeserving any, My reasons for appointing him assistant to the Paymaster, were because he would otherwise have been without employ, and M^r^. Combes by My appointment of M^r^. Nairne to the station of Secretary left without any Assistant; he acquainted me wth. his intentions of addressing your Honour &c^a^. on this subject which I conclude he has prepar'd.

M^r^. Henry Idell too has referr'd himself to you concerning the money he has paid in for Stores Issued to private People but it was done in consequence of my sending him word that I would dismiss him the Service unless he comply'd which I thought the unbecoming answer here turn'd me by the Secretary (of his not having collected and therefore could not pay it) very highly deserv'd.

It is inconceivable the Evils which have crept in almost thrō every branch of our Hon̄ble Masters Concerns on this Establishment from a Government weakly and loosely administred unus'd to restraint the servants here brook but Ill any steps or measures which are taken to bring them to a sense of their Duty and this has made the execution of the Supravizor's Commission appear as the Greatest hardships to such who have found themselves Confin'd by it, which I must Confess too has in many particulars been attended with pain and reluctancy to myself some Ill will in an office of this kind is to be look'd for but I am conscious of never having acted in any from other motives than a hearty and sincere zeal for the Interest of my Hon̄ble Employers and to the best of my Judgement consistent with equity.

Application has been frequently made me by some English Inhabitants of the Place to assist them in recovering their Debts from others who had refus'd payment of them or declin'd it on pretence of inability of some such Plea tho known to be in a Capacity of Discharging them in part at least; but as matters of this kind are of a Tender nature I could not take upon me to act in them. This is however a hardship which I think calls for some remedy and therefore take the Liberty of recommending it to your Honour &c^as^. consideration.

This Ship you will perceive by our Consultation was intended to have been dispatch'd the 5th. and I was then in hopes to have effected it, but by the Secretarys extreme indisposition he became incapable [*The remaining portion of Letter No.* 60 *and Letter No.* 61 *missing in the original.*]

No. 62.

[*Earlier portion missing in the original.*]

And the devulging it to the Company was a breach of that trust and might therefore in my Private character expose me to censure tho it was fullfilling my duty in regard to them. But in the same sentence it is said "that it would have been more conformable to the Companys Orders if I had immediately disclosed it, the Contract woud then have probably been dropp'd and many personal reflections and animositys avoided and therefore I was so far blameable." Here then I am blam'd for not immediately disclosing the Contract and therefore your Honour &ca. Council cannot mean that my disclosing it to the Company was a breach of Private trust, which justly expos'd me to censure in my private Character, because the disclosing it immediately (by which I presume is meant here) or the disclosing it to the Company must if any, be an equal breach of trust, and therefore this would be as it were blaming me right or wrong, a censure too unjust, a Contradiction too palpable for your Honour &ca. Council to be guilty of as to the Company's orders, to which the immediate disclosing this Contract would have been more Conformable, Give me leave to assure you that had I been acquained with them I should punctually have complied therewith tho at the same time I should not then, nor am I yet be able to see how by this method many personal reflections and animositys would have been avoided, having found by my little Experience in the World, that personal reflections, animositys and Quarrels, much Oftener ensue, from telling to a man himself his faults than from telling them to another, from making him Judge in his own cause, than from making another so; However as your Honour &ca. Council deem it otherwise in this Case, I must submit, hoping that my Ignorance of this will be admitted as some alleviation of my fault. As to the dropping the contract, which it is said would probably have follow'd the Method, permit me one more to Assure you, that the Contract was dropp'd without this Method, that it was not observ'd by either party, and therefore I once thought I might have rested my sole defence on that I however still Flatter myself it will exculpate me from that part of the Charge the Contracts not being dropp'd.

But I may be pardon'd the presumption it seems to me that the Greatest part, if not the whole of the Censure pass'd on my Conduct in this Affair arises from a misapprehension of the Facts, which tho already pretty fully set forth in the addresses of Messrs. Massey, Gunn and myself as enter'd after Consultation of the 31st. December 1753 as well as in Mr. Hindleys, enter'd after Consultation of the 8th. Jañry following, permit me here to recapitulate and as Mr. Hindley was principally concern'd tho not the Chief Actor himself in this affair. I shall make use of his name tho perhaps sometimes not very properly, but this is not at all material to the point. Mr. Hurlock wanted to quit the Government here with as little disadvantage as Possible, Mr. Hindley next in cuccession [*sic*] came into his designs, but wanted some partners to help off with the Stock in trade Debts &ca. but chiefly to strengthen his party, least such a Transaction should be condemn'd by either the Presidency or Company Mr. Charles Smith was principal Actor Mr. Massey was with difficulty brought into it and I not at all, the attempt however occasion'd me to be present, when a Bargain was struck, and as I was the only Indifferent Party, present, they desired me to Draw up the Agreement, which I did and Witnessed it. This Agreement was however never observed, but broke and dropp'd and the whole affair seem'd to be over, till about four Months after this another bargain was finally made at which I was not present.

This is the naked fact, and if your Hon^r^. &c^a^. Council have receiv'd any private information (for I know of no Publick one) that I aided, abetted, or in any shape particularly forwarded this Transaction (except the mere writing the first agreement be deem'd such) you have receiv'd a very false information the same I aver also in regard to any private trust or Confidence repos'd in me, except the keeping secret M^r^. Hurlock's intention of Going home till the Brilliant Snow then under dispatch was sail'd least your Honour &c^a^. Council should appoint another Successor than M^r^. Hindley; this I kept and this is the only point that ever wore any shape of secrecy, and was to last only for a few days. Now what part of my Conduct in this Affair, I am so unhappy to be censur'd for by your Honour &c^a^. Council I am really at a Loss to guess, unless you mean the mere Writing that Contract which nevertheless it is agreed by the partys themselves was never observ'd. Give me leave to answer to this that it contain'd no treason, that it was not a Criminal Contract deemed and declar'd such by any Law, and as to Custom perhaps rather warranted than condemn'd by it, and at most an action doubtfully wrong, defenders of it then were not wanting, they are not wanting now, nor have your Honour &c^a^. Council deem'd it a Crime, as you have not thought proper to determine it a Consideration: But suppose the things to be perform'd by this Contract were Criminal and the actors therein censurable or otherwise punishable, is therefore, the bare Writer to be deem'd a party. I am sure had I thought there had been any harm in Writing it I should have avoided as much as I did being concern'd in it; This Indeed I thought wrong and of Prejudice to the Company's Affairs, and therefore I acquainted them with it, nor do your Honour &c^a^. Council expressly blame one for this, allowing that in strictness it was my Duty, but say that I ought to have disclos'd it. but to whom I should disclose it except to the Company or to you, I am at a Loss to know, for it was no Secret here, and therefore properly speaking could not be disclos'd here that this is the truth, the whole place can Witness M^r^. Massey in his address before mention'd declares it was known to almost every body, nor does M^r^. Hindley, or M^r^. Gunn mention the transaction to have been a Secret; and besides other Proofs I could bring I have good reason to believe the Company receiv'd information of this Affair from several other hands than mine which proves that the thing was well known here, or else these Gentlemen must have been as guilty of a Breach of Private trust, as it seems to be insinuated that I am, for I cannot suppose that your Honour &c^a^. Council deem it a breach of Private trust to acquaint the Company with any Publick and well known action committed by some of their Servants here, which I or another may think wrong, and prejudicial to their Affairs. I must further beg you to consider that, the first agreement which I wrote, it is acknowledg'd was broke and never observ'd I could therefore betray nothing of that, but the intention. The second agreement which was carried into execution, I was not present at what private trust then, could I betray, but as these facts could not well escape your Honour &c^a^. Councils notice, I am afraid I still mistake the thing, which I must beg you will pardon, and impute it to want of deseernment [*sic*] which is really so Great that I cannot see the reason why I who would not be concern'd in this Bargain should be liable to censure, and those that were escape it. If it be urged that I ought to have oppos'd, such a transaction, did those who were concern'd in it oppose it was not the declaring it wrong in my opinion, and the refusing to be concern'd in it, tho earnestly press'd thereto, some opposition, and if the thing to be perform'd was intended to be a secret, was it likely after this they would have proceeded in it? since they must naturally conclude that I who blam'd it, who would not be concern'd in it, and who was not under any kind of tye or trust, Confidence or Secrecy, would in all probability talk of it and write of it too. If it be imagin'd that a regard to my own advancement was the motive I acted on, and not the Company's Interest, how came this motive not to influence me to take the short road that others did and be concern'd in the Bargain, which I presume was at least

not solely calculated for the Companys Interest? and if it be suggested that I foresaw such a Transaction would not be approv'd by the Company, and therefore would not be concern'd in it, is this Foresight a Crime? or is it even Criminal to seek my own Advancement in a fair way, and without Prejudice to my Masters and, I hope too, without dishonour to myself? for I again and ever shall solemnly declare that no private trust was repos'd in me and that I abhorr a treachery of that kind, as much as those who may suspect me of it, and perhaps more than those who may have accus'd me of it, if any such there be.

During the time I was Storekeeper which was about two years and a half it is a tender one and I beg you will pardon it and I shall be shorter on the next, which regards my purchases of Iron and Steel of the Company while Storekeeper, the fact of which is as follows:

During the time I was Storekeeper which was about two years and a half I at several and distant times purchased of the Company for ready money and at an advance of fifty ⅌ Cent, as appears by the Bills from my several Assistants, and which I produced to the supravizors, Iron about 178 and Steel about 14. This Iron and Steel I sold again at Credit to Chinese and Malays here at about forty ⅌ Cent further advance and sometimes to such as carried it to other places though still at Credit.

Now what Injury or injustice I did the Company by this I really cannot see, since I sometimes bought it cheaper of others and since I never refus'd to sell to black or White on the same terms I bought myself of the Company. The Supravizors who search'd very narrowly into this Affair will I believe acquit me of this, as well as Confirm my Assertion, that I allways sold on trust, and if either of these are still doubted, they may be further enquir'd into many of the people who bought of me being still Living.

If it be alledged, that if I could sell my own Iron at so high a Price I ought as Storekeeper to have sold the Companys at the same give me leave to answer, that the Company have fixed the Advance on their Wares and Stores here at 25 ⅌ Cent if for the use of their Servants, and 50 ⅌ Cent if for sale again, I therefore (however Wrong) should have thought myself as culpable, to have rais'd the Price on my own Authority, above what they had fix'd as to have lower'd it, since the one as well as the other was a disobedience of their Orders, and might be attended with consequences equally bad, besides what I sold was at Credit, which the Company do not here allow to be given, and I have often been a twelve month out of my money, and twice or thrice I believe near two Years.

Your Honour &ca. Council may perhaps wonder at the great difference here made between ready Money and Credit, & I think it not very Credible, but permit me to acquaint you that is very common with the Chinese and Malays to lend money among one another in small sums at no less a Premium than $\frac{1}{8}$ of a Dollar for a Dollar ⅌ Mensem which is at the rate of 150 ⅌ Cent ⅌ annum it is however also common to reduce this to 1/16 of a Dollar ⅌ mensem or 75 ⅌ Cent ⅌ annum when there is a Pledge in hand and the lowest they can borrow at is 30 ⅌ Cent ⅌ annum but then this is not in such small sums as forty or fifty Dollars the usual amount of Iron and Steel they bought at a time, thus it appears that it was cheaper for these people to buy Iron &ca. at Credit, than to borrow money to pay down for it.

Your Honour &ca. Council say that I have nothing more to say in my Justification than the other Gentlemen, to wit that I bought the Iron and Steel on my own account and sold it in the same manner to the Natives!! Permit me very briefly to state the two Cases.

The other Gentlemen seldom or never sold at trust, nor would they sell for ready Money even to other Company's Servants without a further advance than the Companys fix'd price; Witness the Iron Mr. Gunn sold to Mr. Carter

I always sold on Credit, nor did I ever sell to one in the service for ready money at a higher Price than the fix'd one of fifty ℘ Cent, nor did I ever refuse to sell to any one Black or White at the fix'd Price for ready money.

How largely I dealt in these two Articles the time and quantity will shew. What I got by them I shall in Obedience to your Orders pay into the Compys Cash here, nor should I have presum'd to trouble you for so small a sum, did not the light in which this affair seems to be look'd upon grieve me much, and the more as I am not conscious of least abuse of office while Storekeeper and can prove by my Bills from my Assistants, that I did not make use of so much as a Grain of Salt of the Companys without paying them for it. Of the four Assistants I had during my being Storekeeper, only one is living and he was only a few Months under me which I look upon as a Great misfortune because I could have brought them to have vouch'd for my Conduct in that Employ, I however flatter myself that my Honble Masters are better acquainted with me than to think I would deal dishonestly or unfairly by them, in that Employ, or any other, and as I know them too just and wise to be influenc'd by any considerations than those of Justice I am not without hopes that they will think of this Affair and indeed of my whole Conduct, in a manner that were your Honour &ca. Council to think of it would give me the highest satisfaction, the Approbation and applause of my Superiours as well as Masters having allways been my Study.

I hope your Honour &ca. Council, do not think I was ever vain enough to imagine the Companys Welfare here, depended much on my Services, if I was, your deeming it highly necessary that the regulations made by the Supravizors should be carried into Execution, under the Eye of one of them, at least plainly tells me how much I was mistaken; for if I am not Capable of carrying into Execution, regulations made by Supravizors I must be equally incapable of Carrying into execution regulations made, or to be made by Your Honour &ca. Council, or by the Honble Court of Directors, and therefore unfit for that Station to which I apprehend I had no very Ill founded pretensions, and if unfit for that Station my services here cannot be of any great moment and consequently the Companys Interest can receive little or no prejudice by my immediately resigning their Service, I have however liv'd long enough to know that censure entering at a small opening often swells to a mighty size, and as I would if possible not leave the least opening for further Censure, nor be thought, as I rise not with the Service to endeavour to sink the Service with me. • I have therefore thought it not improper to acquaint your Honour &ca. Council with my Intention of going home as soon as I can settle a few private Affairs of my own and of some other persons in my hands, for my Situation here at present is really very uneasy to myself and what is still worse little advantageous to my Masters.

I hope your Honour &ca. Council will not misconstrue this intention or commuication thereof. I hope you will not think it contemptuous, menacing or disobedient, I hope you will believe I know my Duty and Interest too well to be guilty of any thing of this kind; I hope too you will not understand this as an Arraignment of your determinations, such being farr from my meaning; but I presume, I may without giving Offence judge of their Consequences as far as they regard myself and in this view I hope you will forgive me, if I think the continuation of the Supravizion, a treatment I have not in my own opinion deserved, and a reflection I little expected. I think however it will be more for the Companys Interest, more pleasing to you, and more becoming in me to submit to it quietly, and therefore it seems to me the only step I can take to be of some further little Service as well as the best way to avoid sinking further into disgrace; Absence often times causing reflections to arise which otherwise would

not, and, may perhaps open a Door to that Good Name I should be very proud of obtaining from your Honour &ca. Council and which tho of more worth in the Service I shall not regard the Less out of it.

I am with the greatest Respect
HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most obedient humble Servant
THOMAS COMBES.

FORT MARLBRO
4TH. FEBRY 1755.

No. 63.

TO THE HONBLE THOS. SAUNDERS ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

A few days before the arrival of your Honour &ca. Councils General Letter ℘ Prince George in which I am inform'd there is a Para in my favour as to Manna Residency Our supravizor thought proper to dismiss me the service, which hasty and precipitate proceedings of his I humbly beg permission to expatiate a little upon, and to endeavour to shew not only the unreasonableness of it, but that it was also Unjustifiable.

My Octobers Storekeepers Accounts were not ready with the rest to be pass'd at the usual time, which was partly owing to Mr. Idel one of my Assistants, being above his business, and preferring his own to that of the Companys, neglected tho often call'd upon by me to send an Account in due time of Stores sold and deliver'd that month, so that I could neither collect in the money, nor draw out the Accounts, which last I allways chose to do myself and partly to Mr. Gillson my other Assistant not having a Capacity to do any business at all, which I have often represented to the Supravizor requesting another in his stead, but without Success both my October and November Accounts were drawn out, deliver'd to the Accountant and ready to be pass'd at the time appointed, but I had not been able to Collect in the money from several Gentlemen so as to pay in the Ballance the same day which Mr. Pybus told me was a matter of indifference whether it was paid in then or carried forward, I have some of the Bills now by me, one of which is upon a Gentleman in too exalted a Station for me to name; this the Supravizor was pleas'd to call my making use of the Honble Companys Money and without so much as a single hearing dismiss'd me as above mention'd, Giving orders at the same time for my Effects to be dispos'd of at Publick outcry which was accordingly done and the Ballance compleated tho at a time when Gentlemen were not all dispos'd to bid or buy, so that it may justly be said they were rather given away than sold I would not willingly tax the Supravizor with an intention to ruin me and my family, but I must confess it has too much the appearance of it, I cannot help observing to your Honour &ca. that the Sea Customer's Ballance due in August last was not paid in till the month of December of which not the least Notice was taken.

When I was a Candidate for the Residency of Manna there was no objection made against my Conduct or Capacity and had there been the least room for any I have reason to believe that some members then present would, have been forward enough to have done it, now I am told the Supravizor has muster'd up three objections in his Letter to the Honble the Court of Directors ℘ Grantham why I should not be sent thither notwithstanding it was your Honour's &ca.

injunctions by the Prince George that I should, but this is only a Single instance out of many which I could give of Mr. Pybus's disregard of the Presidencys orders.

The objections he makes are these Want of the Language, Badness of Circumstances, and want of Capacity. To the first I shall answer that I am allow'd by every Gentleman at Marlbro except Mr. Pybus who happens to be a Stranger to the Language, to understand and speak the Mallay Tongue as well if not better than the present Resident Mr. Darwall. In regard to the Second objection badness of circumstances your Honour &ca. will be pleas'd to give me leave to observe that it has hitherto been my fate, to be kept at Marlbro without any other advantage than my pay to live upon at which place without a large fund it is impossible for any man to get a Cash, and consequently out settlements are the only places where a man that has but little can improve his Circumstances to which by my standing I have been long entitled. The last Objection I am humbly of opinion carries its own Confutation along with it, for what set of Gentlemen at the head of Affairs of any sense at all would have appointed a person to allmost all the employs in the service, without his having a Capacity to discharge them, and that I have discharg'd them, let my Letters in their Honrs. Books testify.

I have allways studied the Honble Companys Interest in preference to my own and us'd my utmost endeavours to promote it as a convincing Proof of which I can safely assure your Honour &ca. that I have not been able to get in their Honours Service so much as is requisite to discharge my Passage to Madrass otherwise I purpos'd to have proceeded thither and in person to have solicited the Favour and protection of the Honble the Presidency.

I am with the Greatest respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & most humble. Servant

Daniel Tottie.

Fort Marlbro
15th. Febry 1755.

No. 64.

To the Honble Thos. Saunders Esqr.
President & Governour &ca. Council of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

As I am always willing to obey the orders of my Superiours, and be as little troublesome as possible, it is with Great regret, I am now oblig'd to remonstrate to Your Honour &ca. the Injustice I have met with in the discharge of my Duty, but I flatter myself that I shall be amply satisfied and not be deem'd presumptuous in this my Address a plain narration of my Grievance is what I purpose laying before Your Honour &ca. and to your determination fully refer my case.

My Residence on this Coast has been upwards of three years, during which time, excepting about three months, my employ has been in the Storehouse, as assistant, and by not having heard any Complaints exhibited against me, in all that time, I have the pleasure to think I have given satisfaction in the trust repos'd in me, I allways thought it necessary as I observ'd was practis'd before me, never to deliver out anything under my charge without an order from my principal which orders, I have carefully preserv'd notwithstanding which, the Supravizors have thought proper to oblige me to pay for sundry Stores deliver'd

out to several Gentlemen, the Orders for the delivery of which I offer'd to produce and was also corroborrated by the acknowledgement of the several Gentlemen who were then present on the Spot and did not refuse being accountable there for. As this procedure is very unprecedented, I beg leave to lay before your Honour &c^a^. an Extract from Consultation of the 8th. of June last.

"ORDER'D that the Amount of Arrack rice and salt, lent out of the Storehouse be made good in money, the former Article at the rate of Seventy Dollars ℔ Leagure, and the two latter at twelve Bamboos ℔ Dollar their fix'd price at the time they were issu'd And as the delivery of these Stores seems to have been a private Act of the Assistant Henry Idell that he pay in the amount and stand to all bad debts" Your Honour &c^a^. will please to observe that it is there suppos'd to be done as a private act of mine, but how inconsistent that supposition is, appears evidently from the vouchers which I have allways ready to produce; I beg leave further to add that since the dismission of M^r^. Daniel Tottie who was formerly Storekeeper and the appointment of M^r^. Rich^d^. Wyatt to that employ, the latter Gentleman before I rec̃ed the charge of the Storehouse desir'd to know of the Supravizor and Council, whether his assistants were to be answerable for Losses, Deficiencys &c^a^. and was told on him alone as Principal they should call on appearance of any such, and therefore the partially which has been us'd in making me culpable in this Affair will I doubt not have its due weight.

FORT MARLBRO
20TH. FEB̃RY. 1755.

I am very respectfully
HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Humble Servant,
HENRY IDELL.

N°. 65.

TO THE HOÑBLE THO^S^. SAUNDERS ESQ^R^.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOUR &C^A^. COUNCIL OF
FORT S^T^. GEORGE.

HOÑBLE SIR & SIRS

It is with all due thankfulness I rec̃ed the Allowance your Honour &c^a^. Council have been pleas'd to Grant me.

I address'd the Supravizors for my Diet and Salary; from my Dismission by the late Deputy Governour and Council, to the time of their Confirming the dismission, which they said must be referr'd to Your Honour &c^a^. Council; but as I have been inform'd no mention is made thereof in the General letter ℔ Prince George, I beg leave with the Greatest Submission to represent that just before that event, you thought proper to give orders, that no Companys Servant should be dismiss'd the Service, but suspended only, till your Commands arriv'd relating thereto, I humbly hope therefore that Your Honour &c^a^. Council, will take this matter into your consideration, and send directions that I may obtain the same, which will be a considerable relief to me in my present unhappy Circumstances.

[*The remaining portion of Letter No.* 65 *and Letters Nos.* 66 *to* 77 *missing in the Original.*]

N°. 78.

[*The previous portion missing.*]

A good Europe Beam and Scales.

N.B.—those formerly sent being Generally so bad as to prove useless.

A compleat Set of Weights according to the regulation at Madras—with the Compys Chop, from ½ Cwt. down to ¼ lb. 5 or 6½ Cwts.

Iron Locks of Different sizes	18
Brass Ditto	12
Europe steel	10 Md.

VIZAGAPATAM
APRIL 29TH. 1755.

MARMADUKE BEST
Storekeeper.

No. 79.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

By the Arcot Snow I have address'd you under date the 1st. January and then inclos'd Messrs. North and Bakers Transactions at the Court of Pegue since then I have transmitted on the Cuddalore Sloop by way of Bengall the several Papers relating to this place and now I have inclos'd the Occurrences and transactions to the Date hereof by all which Your Honours will be made fully acquainted with every circumstance of our Proceedings here what little hopes we may now entertain of the King of Pegues signing any Treaty on advantageous Terms and on the other hand how much the King of Ava is inclin'd to renue that Friendship which of Old subsisted between the Honble Company and his people.

The Present King of Pegue and Government have ever look'd upon us with an Evil and a Jealous Eye that these his Suspitions of us since the Burmah Embassy will be much encreas'd leaves no doubt remaining, that he has allways evaded coming to a close with us is certain and in case he had what can he give or his Kingdom produce as an equivalent to the Loss of the Burmah Interest which would certainly be the case had we clos'd, he has treated all Embassys to him with Contempt and has receiv'd Our Presents with disdain tho he has not scrupled to break his Faith for the Lucre of them to what purpose then shall this man be further solicited, whose word is not to be rely'd on or if it was, whoes Country yields not the Trade we want. The Burmahs have ever been the Merchants and are now possess'd of that Country which yields Articles for Trade and are the people to whom European Cloths &ca. are to be vended and unless a fair Correspondence between us and them is maintain'd we cannot have either, herein then lies the difficulty to carry on this without giving offence to the King of Pegue, in my humble opinion it is not practicable, because this must be carryed on thro his Country which lies between us, which he never will permit with free will what then is our alternative, either to remain on the Island at a very heavy annual Charge to the Honble Company without hope of any future advantages or by exerting ourselves in favour of the Burmahs force a Passage and maintain a Correspondance with them. That it is not the Interest of the Honble Company to enter into Contests and Feuds ever productive of a Train of expences will with all reason most readily be admitted, yet that circumstances will sometimes so happen as not to avoid this is also most true, Our present situation on this Island is in my apprehensions a palpable instance of it. The French at Syrian have openly espous'd the cause of the Peguers and will ever pour in thro that Channel unless quickly prevented great Supplys of all warlike stores and it is to these supplys they have allready receiv'd that the Peguers are able even to this time to hold their heads above water, stop but this scourse of evils and the Business is done. The changes of War are Uncertain and tho the

Pegue Government at this Juncture sits on the Penacle of Ruin yet when aided by a French Interest may overpower the Burmahs, what we in that case are to expect may easily be guess'd at and what Conduct in Future, we are to pursue your Honours only are the judges, which you will please to signify by the next advices.

Lieutenant Bilhock having Languishd for many months under a very grievous disorder requests Liberty to return to Fort St. George for the recovery of his health and now takes his Passage on the Cuddalore accordingly.

The Honble Companys Cash on this Island being principally Dollar Silver I shall not have Rupees Sufficient to pay the Artificers &ca. their monthly wages for a longer time than may next and as Dollars are two [*sic*] large a coin for these purposes I request you will please to send here what Supply of Rupees your Honours will judge necessary.

I am
HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Humble Servt.
HENRY BROOKE.

NEGRAIS
13TH. APRIL 1755.

LIST of the PACKET to FORT ST. GEORGE ⅌ THE HONOURABLE COMPANYS SLOOP CUDDALORE CAPTAIN NATHANIEL HAMMOND COMMANDER VIZT.

1 General Letter.
2 Occurrences and Transactions Commencing 1 Febry 1755 Ending 9th. April 1755.
3 Account Current of Cash for Janry. and Febry. 1755.
4 Invoice of Teak Timbers.
5 Indent of Stores
6 Duplicate Indent of Stores ⅌ Arcott Snow dated 1st. January 1755.
7 General return of the Military and Train from 1st. Janry. to the 1st. April 1755.
8 Bill of Lading.

NEGRAIS
13TH. APRIL 1755.

[*A few Pages missing in the original.*]

					Ps.		
Long Cloth Salem	@ Ps. 47	13	40	⅌ Corge			
Brokerage	1	—	—	⅌ d°.	48	13	40
Long Cloth Chinnamank. Pollm.	@ Ps. 45	4	40	⅌ d°.			
Brokerage	1	—	—	⅌ d°.	46	4	40
Long Cloth Chinnamk. Pm. Sheally	46	18	0	⅌ d°.			
Brokerage	1	—	—	⅌ d°.	47	18	—
Long Cloth Worriar Pollam ..	44	—	—	⅌ d°.			
Brokerage	1	—	—	⅌ d°.	45	—	—

Long Cloth Midling Blue ..	@ P^s.	44	—	—	℔ Corge.			
Brokerage		1	—	—	d^o.			
Dying		15	18	—	d^o.	60	18	—
Salempores Midling		22	18	—	d^o.			
Brokerage		—	16	—	d^o.	23	—	—
Salempores Ordinary		20	—	—	d^o.			
Brokerage		—	18	—	d^o.	20	18	—
Soot Romalls		12	9	—	d^o.			
Brokerage		—	9	—	d^o.	12	18	—
Batelas of 50 Covids ..	These goods are not now provided [. .] this place	41	13	40	d^o.			
Brokerage ..		1	—	—	d^o.	42	13	4
Batelas of 40 Covids ..		33	—	—	d^o.			
Brokerage ..		1	—	—	d^o.	34	—	—
Ginghams White ..		25	27	—	d^o.	25	27	—

N°. 93.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

President & Governour &c^a. Council of Fort S^t. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

The Contents of Your favour of the 11th. Instant shall be strictly complied with, to the utmost of my Power and a due regard paid, to the terms of the new Cowle when it arrives, having already taken the principal trouble off the hands of the Renters by repairing all the banks of any consequence for securing a large quantity of Water necessary for cultivating a great part of the bounds, which neglected would have been attended with a very great expence and almost insuperable difficulties, if it could have been done at all this Season, By this means Ramanaigue will have little more to do than to set the Inhabitants to work, and collect his Revenue though at the same time I hope I shall not incurr your Displeasure by expressing my concern at the clause which he tells me is to be inserted in the new Cowle, by which I am to be depriv'd of the small and almost only advantage Left but enjoy'd by every one of my predecessors, who were entirely exempted, from the Hardship of paying any Duty on Firewood, a Punctual obedience shall nevertheless be paid to whatever you shall determine that I may never fail of giving fresh proofs of my being with great Respect.

Deve Cotah
18th. June 1765.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most Obligd humble Servant
Charles Hopkins.

N°. 94.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

President and Governour &c^a. Council of Fort S^t. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

This serves to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 25th. April, inclosing Copy of a Cartel concluded with the Dutch, which I shall pay all due obedience to.

Herewith comes the usual Papers for the last Month which being all the material at present I remain

INGERAM
8 JUNE 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Servant
FOSS WESTCOTT.

No. 95.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

I have been oblig'd with your Honours &ca. favour of the 25th. April, inclosing Copy of the Articles of a Cartel entered into with the Dutch which shall be duely observ'd.

I am oblig'd to you for the promise you make me of supplying me with Stores and Pagodas.

Herewith comes the accounts of this place for last month and I am with the Greatest esteem

BANDARMALAKA
THE 7TH. JUNE 1755.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedt. and most Oblig'd Humble. servt.
JOHN ANDREWS.

No. 96.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

Your two favours of the 21st. March and 15th. Ultimo, came to hand the 8th. Instant and this is purely to give cover to a Packett for the Honble the President and Council of Bombay which we request your Honour &ca. will please to forward immediately on its arrival.

We are
HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE SCOTT.
PETER ELWIN WRENCH.
TITUS SCOTT.

ANJENGO
31ST. MAY 1755.

No. 97.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

As there has been for some time past and is still so great a scarcity of grain, and all sorts of provisions at this place, and in the adjacent Country round us, that the Military and seapoys, can hardly subsist on their pay I have entreated

the favour of Ramanaigue, to forbear drawing any Duty from the people we are supli'd by, till such necessarys grow cheaper a Practice which I am told all the former Bound Renters readily fell into, on such like occasions But whether this step be conformable to your Sentiments, it will give me great pleasure to be inform'd of not only because it will be a satisfaction to me to conduct myself agreable thereto, but to prevent all further occasion of a General discontent and Clamour, as well in the Garrison as inhabitants.

I have also acquainted Ramanaigue of my readiness to assist him, in anything that was not attended by an expence, to the Company; and he thereupon requested, ten or twelve Seapoys to attend him, who were, sent him accordingly. But when he came to understand that if he employ'd them beyond the usual limits, he was to pay them Batta. He did not detain them above two days before he return'd them. I judged it was my Duty to acquaint your Honour &ca. of these Transactions that I might receive your directions the better to regulate myself in future.

Inclos'd are the Papers for last Month to which I beg leave to add that I am with the greatest Respect

HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient and most Oblig'd
humble Servant
CHARLES HOPKINS.

DEVE COTAH
23D. JUNE 1755.

No. 98.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

HONBLE SIR & SIRS

The Protector Commodore William James carried our last address, Duplicate of which is enclos'd and desire Your Honour &ca. will transmit the accompanying Packet to the President and Council at Fort William, by the first conveyance.

We have the pleasure to advise you, that our Honble Masters Ships Anson and London, imported the 28th. Instant, the former from Bengall and the latter, with a Considerable Quantity of Pepper from Onore.

We are
HONBLE SIR & SIRS
Your most Obedient Servants

RICHD. BOURCHIER.
CHAS. CROMMELIN.
JAMES FOULIS.
WILLIAM SEDGWICKE.
HENRY SYMMONS.
... ...
WILLIAM HORNBY.
J. SPENCER.

BOMBAY CASTLE
31ST. MAY 1755.

No. 99.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governour &c^a. Council
of Fort S^t. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have received your several Letters of the 18th. and 24th. Instant and 31st. Ultimo ℘ Cuddalore Sloop, which vessell did not arrive till the 27th. her Stores are landing with all possible expedition and we hope to Dispatch her in a Day or two. We have also receiv'd the ten thousand (10,000) Pagodas by Peons.

It was with Great pleasure We heard of Nella Chitty's undertaking the Investment at this place and we most ardently hope he may have all imaginable success therein. Your Honour &ca. may depend upon our Shewing him all the favour in our Power when either he or his agents appear here.

We shall pay the strictest regard to your directions concerning the Investment and use our best Endeavours to comply with our Honble Masters Commands both, in respect to the Quality and Quantity of every Species of Goods they require although Your Honour &ca. are well acquainted with the difficulties We have and are still likely to struggle with in both Articles.

Irshippa Chitty and Pauparauze have at least agreed to Contract for the new Investmt. at the former Prices and as you so possitive in your directions to be inform'd how much of each Sortment you are to expect from us We have made them give in the following List sign'd of what they can provide by the January Dispatch.

	Call.	Bales.
Long Cloth Ordinary	8	300
Do. Midling	9	100
Do. Chially	9	50
Do. Midling and Ordinary Blue		200
Do. Fine		25
Salampores Midling and Ordinary		150
Soot Romulls Red	Ps.	500
Do. Blue		3000
Succatoons		200
Betelas of 40 Covids		500
Do. 50		500

of which 200 Bales are to be ready for the September Dispatch but we are affraid to flatter ourselves even with this Quantity as those Men have so often deceiv'd us but should they perform what they promise that and what Nella Chitty may provide is all we have any prospect of at present.

Porsheram Pilla is now our only Salem Merchant, and with concern we must inform you We have but too good reason to think it will be very difficult to recover the Companys Ballance out of his hands he having for three Months put us off from day to day with promises that he had Cloth on the road sufficient to clear his Ballance, We at last thought proper to put him under Confinement in the sorting Godown and the Deputy Governour sent a Trusty person to Salem to enquire how his Affairs stood there who writes he has not above four Ox loads of Cloth ready and cannot find he has any at the Weavers. We are much at a Loss to know how to treat this Man therefore request your directions.

Our Ballance of Cash is out barely sufficient to Answer the Current Demands of the Month, and as we must make Irshappa Chitty and Pauparazue large Advances We are under a Necessity of desiring your Honour &ca. to send us a Speedy Supply.

We are with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servants

Fort St. David
30th. June 1755.

Richd. Starke.
Hugh Norris.
Robt. Sloper.
Richd. Fairfield.
Charles Turner.

No. 100.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governour &ca. Council
of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We now dispatch to you our Honble Masters Sloop Cuddalore with one hundred Candys of Redwood and Thirty two (32) Bales of Calicoes as ℔ Invoice and Bill of Lading Enclos'd.

We are with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servants

Fort St. David
1st. July 1755.

Richd. Starke.
Hugh Norris.
Robt. Sloper.
Richd. Fairfield.
Charles Turner.

No. 101.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governour &ca. Council
Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd your favour of the 28th. Ultimo accompanying a supply of Ten Thousand (10,000) Pagodas.

Our Consultations and Monthly Accounts for may now wait on you.

As there is a very great scarcity of Grain in the Bounds and very little probality [*sic*] of our being able to purchase any We must request your Honour &c^a^. will supply us with as much Rice and Paddy as you can conveniently spare as soon as possible.

We are with Respect

FORT S^T^. DAVID HON^BLE^ SIR & SIRS

7TH. JULY 1755. Your most Obedient humble Servants

RICH^D^. STARKE.
HUGH NORRIS.
ROB^T^. SLOPER.
RICH^D^. FAIRFIELD.
CHARLES TURNER.

HON^BLE^ SIR & SIRS

Your favour of the 2^d^. Instant enclosing a new Lease for these Bounds, is come duly to hand, and shall be punctually observ'd and executed to the utmost of my power.

A violent fresh for some days past, having laid the whole Country round us under Water, no supplys of provisions, can be brought in from thence nor can we expect any from S^t^. David as the Gentlemen there from an apprehension of Wanting themselves will not permit, any to be exported which occasions such a Scarcity here, that Rice is now at two Fanams ℘ Madrass Measure, Should we continue many days longer in this Necessitous Condition the place will be reduced to very Great Difficulties, which will not be in my power to remedy.

In the mean while permit me to aquaint [*sic*] you that M^r^. Brickenden lies so dangerously Ill that his recovery is almost despaired of and to Subscribe myself with the Greatest Respect.

HON^BLE^ SIR & SIRS

DEVE COTAH Your most Obdient and most Oblig'd
JULY 8TH. 1755. humble Servant

CHARLES HOPKINS.

TO THE HON^BLE^ GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R^.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &C^A^. COUNCIL
OF FORT S^T^. GEORGE.

HON^BLE^ SIR & SIRS

Some time ago We forwarded you a Petition from the Deve Cotah bound Renters with an account

(*Pages missing in the original.*)

of the Juncan Due to them on Firewood and sundry other Articles which you desired might be more particularly explain'd this they delay'd doing till lately, when pressing them to pay in their Ballance they deliver'd in the inclosed Peti-

tion with an Account particularized as you directed and at the same time informed us they could not pay their Rent without some satisfaction was made them all which we beg leave to refer to your Honour &ca.

Nella Chitty is Arrived and appear'd before the Board this day, but declined Giving any Answer in regard to the Quantity of Cloth We may expect for the September dispatch till he has Contracted with the Brokers which cannot be done in less than Sixteen days.

We have received your Supply of Ten thousand (10,000) Pagodas and 18,000 Fanams by Peons.

We are with Respect

FORT ST. DAVID — HONBLE SIR & SIRS

21ST. JULY 1755. — Your most Obedient Humble Servants

RICHARD STARKE.
HUGH NORRIS.
RICHD. FAIRFIELD.
ROBT. SLOPER.
CHARLES TURNER.

TO THE WORSHIPFULL RICHD. STARKE ESQR.
DEPTY GOVERNOUR &CA. COUNCIL OF
FORT ST. DAVID.

The HUMBLE PETITION of TOMBY MOODELY and IRSHIPPA CHITTY BOUND RENTERS of DEVE COTAH

SHEWETH

Your Worship &ca. are importuning your Petitioners for the payment of the rent of Deve Cotah due to the Honble Company therefore your Petitioners assume liberty to acquaint your Worship &ca. there is a large Sum Due to them from the Inhabitants &ca. on account that Cowle which they have not been able to recover besides no satisfaction has yet been made them for what has been plunder'd by the Morattas in the Districts of Deve Cotah and the heavy Loss sustain'd by the late Floods an account of which is herewith deliver'd for your Worships Inspection.

All which your Petitioners refer to your Worship &ca. Consideration and humbly implore you will please to concert measures to enable them to regain their Losses that they may pay in their Rents due to the Company which will in Duty bind your Petitioners ever to pray.

ACCOUNT of money due to the Renters of Deve Cotah, JUNCAN on Firewood &ca. from the follownig Persons.

		Pags.	fas.	ca.	Pags.	fas.	ca.
1751	Alexr. Wynch Esqr.						
	Juncan on 1546670 Brick Kilns firewood at Fans. 12 ₰ 1000 ..	431	25	—			
	Anchorage of 73 Boats for Do. ..	26	36	—			
					458	18	—

		Pags.	fas.	ca.	Pags.	fas.	ca.
	Chas. Boddam Esqr.						
	Juncan on 21400 Bricks Kilns firewood at 12 Do.	5	42	—			
	Do. 343300 Do. small Do. 6 ..	47	39	—			
1751	Anchorage of 11 Boats	6	4	—			
	Ditto Juncan on 827000 Brick Kilns firewood	230	24	—			
	Anchorage of 37 Boats ..	13	10	—			
					304	—	—
1750	Captain Cope						
	Juncan on 138000 small firewood 6	19	11	—			
	Anchorage of 6 Boats	3	15	—			
	Juncan on Sheep	—	23	—			
					23	6	—
	Mr. Empson.						
	Juncan on 1000 Brick Kilns firewood	—	12	—			
	32000 Small Wood 6 ..	4	20	—			
	Anchorage of one Boat ..	—	11	—			
					5	—	—
1750	Captain Murray.						
	Juncan on 100000 Small wood 6.	13	41	—			
	Anchorage of 2 Boats ..	—	40	—			
	Juncan on fish	—	38	—			
					16	9	—
	Lieutenant Demar.						
	Juncan on 2000 Mint Wood 24.	1	5	—			
	Do. 2250 large Do. 16 ..	—	34	—			
	Do. 363900 small Do. 6 ..	50	33	—			
	Anchorage of 18 Boats ..	6	30	—			
	Juncan on 58 Baskets Fish ..	2	1	—			
	Do. 43 C Tamarin and Sugar ..	10	10	—			
	Do. 3 Bags Wheat	—	6	—			
	Do. 8 Pots of Oil	—	8	—			
	Do. 25000 Beetle Leaves ..	—	25	—			
	Do. 5 Candy Tobacco ..	2	8	—			
	Do. 13 Garce Paddy ..	4	40	—			
	Anchorage of one Boat	—	20	—			
		80	5	—			
	Deduct what recd of him ..	10	5	—			
					70	—	—
	Captain Clarke.						
	Juncan on 98100 Brick Kilns Firewood @ 12 fs.	27	17	—			
	Do. 498000 Small wood 6 ..	68	10	—			
	Anchorage of 24 Boats ..	8	6	—			
	Juncan on 100 Bags Charcoal ..	4	28	—			
1751	Do. 196000 Brick kilns Firewood 12	54	30	—			
	Do. 131000 small 6	18	12	—			
	Anchorage of 14 Boats	4	33	—			
					186	7	—

		Pags.	fas.	ca.	Pags.	fas.	ca.
	Captain Maskelyne.						
	Juncan on 138000 Brick Kilns firewood 12	38	22	—			
	Do. 143000 Small 6	19	41	—			
	Anchorage of 4 Boats	3	30	—			
1752	Juncan 242500 Brick kilns firewood 12	67	29	—			
	Do. 176600 small 6	24	27	—			
	Do. 4000 Mint wood 24	2	10	—			
	Do. 2075 very large wood 48	2	13	—			
	Anchorage of 10 Boats	9	29	—			
	4 Garce. 231 Mercls. Paddy taken from the Village Call'd Durmanaick Cottegum	194	—	—			
	Ready money taken from our Agents	148	—	—			
					510	29	—
1751	Major Kilpatrick.						
	Juncan on 185000 small wood 6	25	35	—			
	Do. 20000 Brick kiln wood 12	5	25	—			
	Anchorage of 5 Boats	2	23	—			
1752	Mr. Dawson.						
	Juncan on 2500 Mint Wood 24	1	17	—			
	Do. 282000 Brick kiln 12	78	30	—			
	Do. 321000 Small 6	44	34	—			
	Anchorage of 31 Boats	8	41	—			
					133	36	–
1753	Mr. Hopkins.						
	Juncan on 980200 Brick kiln wood 12	273	23	—			
	Do. 652100 Small 6	91	—	—			
	Do. 106890 Mint 24	59	27	—			
	Anchorage of 120 Boats	40	1	—			
1754	Jnncan on 580500 Brick Kiln wood 12	161	41	—			
	Do. 41,000 Small 6	5	31	—			
	Anchorage of 28 Boats	13	—	—			
		644	37	—			
	Gar. Merls.						
	7—130 Paddy the Produce of the wood belonging to Deve Cotah which some-time ago was added to the Bounds of Sheally and lately retaken into the Bounds of Deve Cotah	205	—	—			
					849	37	—
1750	Comrepah Conicoply.						
	Juncan on 263000 Brick kiln wood @ 12 fas.	7	15	—			
	Anchorage of 1 Boat	—	20	—			
	Sundry charges	2	8	—			
1751	Juncan on 37000 small wood 6	5	7	—			

		Pags.	fas.	ca.	Pags.	fas.	ca.
1753	Anchorage of 1 Boat	—	22	—			
	Juncan on 100000 Brick kiln wood 12	27	39	—			
	Anchorage of 4 Boats	1	37	—			
	Sundry Charges	4	32	—			
		50	8	—			
	Reciev'd at sundry Times from our Agents at Deve Cotah ..	525	—	—			
					575	8	—

[*A few pages missing in the original*].

received the accompanying Letter from our Accomptant in regard to an Article in the Engineers Accounts, which he could not clear up. We therefore appli'd to Mr. Call for some Explanations of the Affair his answer comes enclosed, by which it appears that he can only give an Account what Military Stores were made in the yard but cannot tell how they were issued nor can we come at any better information how they were disposed of than what the Accomptant mentions, We must therefore request your directions in relation thereto. We are with respect,

Fort St. David
10th. Septr. 1755.

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servants

Richd. Starke.
Hugh Norris.
Robt. Sloper.
Richd. Fairfield.
Charles Turner.

To the Worshipful Richd. Starke Esqr.
Deputy Governour &ca. Council of
Fort St. David.

Worshipful Sir & Sirs

Last year when the Books for 1753 were Ballancing Mr. Call deliver'd in the Engineers Account of Materials and Workmans wages expended in the fortifications from August 1750 to the end of September 1753 in order to clear off the Debt standing in the Books of this Settlement against Mr. Robins and his Successors. This Account particularizes the expence of each Work during that time, and are accordingly charg'd to their respective heads as your Worship &ca. may see by turning to the close of these Books. But there was one Article which I could not then comprehend and therefore was obliged to carry it forward as a Ballance, and defer the adjusting of it till next year. This is a Credit he gives himself By Military Stores Pags. 6376. 19. 7 consisting of a variety of Articles, as Gun Carriages, both Field and Garrison Mortar beds, Tumbrils, Centry Boxes Transporting Carriages platforms &ca. &ca. &ca. and which he informs me were scarcely out of the Workmans hands before they were issued for Service Thoh. I cannot find that any of them were ever brought to account by the Military Storekeepers, excepting 32 Thumbrils which Stock stands Credited for in the close of his Books for 1752 and these dont seem to be charg'd at above one third of their Value what increases the difficulty is, that the Workmanship of these Stores were constantly defray'd by the Military Storekeeper, and appears in his Accounts under the heads of Charges Merchandize and Charges General and have consequently been wrote off annually to Profit and Loss. The best account I have been able to get of this Intricate affair, is but very imperfect, and unsatisfactory but in the course of my Enquirys I learn from the Conicoplys, that during Mr. Robins's time and since his Death

there has been, a large Number of Gun Carriages condemn'd and broke up, which were never wrote off but new ones Substituted in their Stead, out of which it may be presum'd that many of the Issues which appears in the Military Store-keepers Books were made However this is but Conjecture, and indeed all I can offer on the subject is little better, It must therefore remain with your Worship &c^a^. to take such measures as you may judge necessary for further Information, and in the mean time it may not be improper to communicate the Affair to the President and Council. I am

WORSHIPFUL SIR & SIRS

FORT S^T^. DAVID Your most Obedient humble servant

8TH. SEPT^R^. 1755. HUGH NORRIS,

Account:

TO THE WORSHIPFUL RICH^D^. STARKE ESQ^R^.
DEPUTY GOVERNOUR &C^A^. COUNCIL OF
FORT S^T^. DAVID.

WORSHIPFUL SIR & SIRS

Agreable to your Orders from M^r^. Secretary Fairfield, I shall endeavour to give you the most clear and succint account I can of the 6376. 19. 7 (Pag. fas. ca.) which is the amount of materials used in making and repairing Military Stores from the time M^r^. Robins took Charge of the Carpenters yard in 1750 to the end of September 1753.

When the Presidency was transferr'd from hence to Madrass, I was left here to carry on the Fortifications, and at the same time to Inspect the Carpenters, and see that all Military Stors and other Utencils were made Agreable to the several orders, sent me for them. These Stores when made the Military Storekeeper to whom the Indents usually came, dispatch'd to Camp or other Places from whence they were demanded. How he charg'd for them or in what manner they were brought to account I conceiv'd was not my Business to enquire but concluded I had fully discharg'd my Duty in taking care to get whatever was necessary made, and in delivering to the Military Storekeeper a daily report as well as monthly abstract of the People employ'd under my Direction in making such Stores and Utencils as came within his Province; But since my delivering the Accomptant an Account for clearing of the money which M^r^. Robbins, M^r^. Brohier, and myself stood Indebted for on the General Books, I understand there can no were [*sic*] be found any Entry in the Military Store-keepers Books for receiving or Charging any part of the Stores in Question. So that as farr as I can Learn the Honble Company have never had any Credit given them for all or part of the several articles made at an Expence of 6376. 19. 7 (Pag. fas. ca.) as above mention'd I can only add that if it is necessary I can furnish an Account of the Species, Quantity and Expence of the Stores made during the aforesaid time, but how they have been expended, I cannot say for certain, though at the same time I must confess I have often seen them dispatch'd to Camp Tritchanapoly, Deve Cotah and deliver'd for the Service of this Garrison, should any thing further be required of me I am ready on receiving your Worships &c^a^. Orders, to give all the Information I can being with Respect,

FORT S^T^. DAVID WORSHIPFULL SIR & SIRS

SEPT^R^. 10TH. 1755. Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

JOHN CALL.

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